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# ASSOCIATION MEMORY MODULE

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**CORE TERMS:** retrieval, memory, priority, module, encoder

## **ENGLISH-ABST:**

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide an association memory module having a high speed property being produced by performing best matching processing using hardware, and the flexibility for using the capacity of the entire prepared association memory module effectively.

SOLUTION: The memory module 100 has a means capable of arbitrarily setting the order of priority of data selection in a priority encoder 106 from the outside, and a simultaneous retrieval execution means for simultaneously giving input data to each of a plurality of association memories 100a-100d and for allowing each of a plurality of association memories 100a-100d to simultaneously execute retrieval. Then, the priority encoder 106 selects one retrieval result from a plurality of retrieval results being obtained by simultaneously executing the retrieval.